

smoking on health increased from 29% to 49%. In 2011 66% of the population was aware of the existence of national tobacco legislation. In 2013 this number was 85%. The number of smokers indicating that they would like to quit increased from 33% to 72% during the project.

600 teachers from the 296 schools in the Oblast have been trained during the project resulting in improved knowledge (37%→91%) about tobacco control issues by the teachers trained.

Monitoring activities also included analysis of outpatient primary health care medical cards, assessment of skills in counseling smokers as well as interviews with patients. Tobacco dependence treatment has been included in the curriculum of medical students in the Kyrgyz State Medical Academy.

Conclusion: The project has provided a model for successful intervention that WHO and Kyrgyz experts recommend to be expanded nationwide. There is interest to implement the model more widely in Central Asian countries. One of the key preconditions for a successful implementation of tobacco control policies is to establish favorable conditions and social norms to fight the tobacco epidemic. This model for community-based tobacco control can support and complement the governmental tobacco policy efforts by raising awareness and improving knowledge on local and grass-roots level.

Multi-sectoral coordination at national and global levels

PP008

COP5 OUTCOMES AND WORK TOWARDS SUCCESSFUL COP6

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Background: In November 2012, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) held its fifth session in Seoul, Republic of Korea. Each session of the COP sets the tone for global, as well as national, tobacco control for the years to come. Apart from adopting numerous important decisions to strengthen the fight against tobacco epidemic, COP5 highlighted the need to secure a “whole of government” commitment for implementation of the FCTC. The contributions of the civil society in supporting tobacco control efforts proved vital yet again.

However, COP5 outcomes will be only as strong as their follow-up. Governments need to implement newly adopted guidelines and guiding principles, fulfill their treaty obligations such as reporting, and sustain their work on further treaty instruments. Civil society has an important role to play during this process – by supporting the governments directly in their tobacco control efforts, serving as a watchdog to monitor whether countries comply with the FCTC provisions, or providing input to FCTC’s inter-sessional work, such as participating at in FCTC working groups.

Objective: 1) Outline the content of the newly adopted guidelines and guiding principles that governments need to implement in their national tobacco control efforts – Article 6, Article 9 and 10. 2) Describe ongoing work on treaty provisions and opportunities for governments and civil society to participate in the FCTC inter-sessional process – Article 6, Article 9 and 10, Article 17 and 18, Article 19. 3) Review obligations under the Convention which all governments need to fulfill in the inter-sessional period – reporting, payment of contributions.

The presentation will also provide information on additional topics expected to be discussed during COP6 in 2014.

Method: Poster presentation.

Result: It is expected that the presentation will contribute towards:

- The understanding of the viewers about newly adopted guidelines by the COP5
- Help in campaigning for the improved civil society participation in the inter-sessional work between COP5 and COP6
- Help viewers revisit various inter-sessional campaigns including reporting, payment of voluntary assessed contributions, etc.

Conclusion: COP5 outcomes will be only as strong as their follow-up. Governments need to implement newly adopted guidelines and guiding principles, fulfill their other treaty obligations. Civil Society has a role to play in this process.

PP010

TOBACCO CONTROL IN NEPAL – CHALLENGES AND COUNTERMEASURES

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Background: Tobacco kills about 16,000 people every year in Nepal and 90 per cent of them die due to lung cancer. Cigarette and *Beedi* smoking, chewing tobacco and using tobacco products such as *Pan*, *Parag*, *Gutka*, etc. are common in Nepal. The prevalence of smoking is 52% and 13.3% for males and females (15 years and older) respectively. The recent studies have shown that doctors, teachers, civil servants and adolescents are more in this addiction. Nepal signed the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) on December 3, 2003, and ratified the treaty on November 7, 2006. Finally tobacco control and Regulatory Act was passed by Government of Nepal on May 2011.

Objective: To share the challenges and countermeasures on tobacco control in Nepal

Method: To implement the anti-tobacco law, Government has formed national

and district level Monitoring Committees. Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) is the coordinator of the national level committee. MoHP has assigned National Health Education Information and Communication Centre (NHEICC) as the focal body to monitor and make surveillance of the effective implementation of the act. The Assistant CDOs in the three districts of the Kathmandu Valley have yet to consider enforcing the anti-smoking as a priority. Most of the times they are busy mobilizing security forces during protests and rallies. Some assistant CDOs even do not know about the anti-smoking law.

Result: Through the health tax fund, coordination, awareness raising and advocacy activities have been implemented. In this endeavour, Somme NGOs are playing key roles in awareness raising and act as pressure group for the effective implementation of act.

Conclusion: Government alone cannot ensure the effective implementation of the tobacco control and regulatory act – 2011. National NGOs should play crucial role in this endeavour. An effective enforcement strategy and mechanism should be developed and implemented. Massive advocacy on awareness raising programme should be launched using Local bodies and civil society role. Political and financial support from Government and donors equally plays significant role for successful implementation of the law.

PP015

IMPLEMENTATION OF WOMEN AND CHILD LABOR LAW IN TOBACCO INDUSTRY: A CASE STUDY IN BANGLADESH

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Background: Tobacco consumption in Bangladesh is widespread which is worsening poverty and health both on the individual and national level. Cottage industries in Bangladesh manufacture biri (unfiltered cigarette), chewing tobacco and process loose tobacco. The workers of such factories are mainly women and children who have no option but to undertake such work. However, this is not only hazardous to their health, it also violates the ethics of international and national human rights and child labor codes.

Objective: 1. Create a conducive legal and policy environment by mainstreaming child and women labor issues in national and sectoral social and economic policies, legislation and programmes. 2. Build and strengthen technical, institutional and human resource capacity of stakeholders dealing with child and women labor elimination. 3. Directly combat child and woman labor through prevention, withdrawal, rehabilitation and re-integration of working children and their families. 4. Improve the knowledge base on child and women labor for informed policy.

Method: 1. Licensing of cigarette/biri factories. 2. Monitoring the activities of small/medium factories. 3. Improving legislations that specifically ban women and children labor in factories and ensuring implementation of the legislation. 4. Provide alternative jobs to women so that income and stability is realized in relevant areas. 5. Mandatory schooling of children in relevant areas. 6. Health screening for those labor already affected.

It is a long term, multi-faceted initiative and if implemented, will slowly eradicate women and child labor in such said hazardous factories.

Result: Although poverty stricken women and children may be willing to work for such factories, employers, in fear of sanction and fine, will not hire the vulnerable group for biri/tobacco manufacturing process and thereby keeping women and children out of this detrimental occupation. Moreover, execution of the stipulated methodologies will spread awareness amongst people and such heightened awareness will lead to increased prevention. The stipulated inter-connected strategies ought to work significantly if implemented in its entirety.

Conclusion: This project will provide a legal framework to manufacture biri/cigarette and other types of tobacco products. Therefore much of what happens illegally can be brought to the legal front, making the activities transparent. This will enable the government, private sector and the media to understand what is happening and thereby raise awareness.

PP029

NATIONAL TOBACCO CONTROL COORDINATION: THE COST EFFECTIVE STRATEGY FOR HARMONIZING IN-COUNTRY TOBACCO CONTROL ACTORS

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Introduction & background:

- Many in-country tobacco (TC) control actors, with poor national coordination for example in Uganda
- Competition among TC actors limiting consultation and sharing among actors
- Duplication of activities leading to high costs of implementation
- Failure to follow national priorities due to lack of a coordinating mechanism

Objective: Congruence for all TC actors, specifically focusing on:

1. Leveraging comparative advantage for TC actors and partners
2. Reduce duplication of activities and cost for implementation
3. Critical mass to respond to TI interference

Method:

- Establishing a national coordination point & secretariat
- Establishing and equipping the coordination committee
- Identifying partners and their roles and responsibilities
- Reporting and reviewing progress